GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:161
ANSWERED ON:15.03.2005
NATIONAL ANTHEM
Panda Shri Prabodh;Purandeswari Smt. Daggubati

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has received suggestions to delete some words from the National Anthem or adopt a new anthem;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has seen various reports in the print and electronic media in this regard recently; and

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government thereon?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO HODLYA GAVIT)

(a)to(d): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE LOK SABHA IN REPLY TO STARRED QUESTION NO.161 FOR 15TH MARCH, 2005

(a) to (d): Government has been receiving, from time to time, letters from various persons suggesting deletion, addition, etc of words in the national anthem or even its complete substitution by some other composition. The Government is also aware of the views articulated in the print/electronic media against any change in the national anthem.

A Writ Petition has been filed in the Supreme Court of India by one Shri Sanjeev Bhatnagar seeking an appropriate order/writ for deletion of the word "Sindh" from the national anthem or its substitution by some other proper and approved word like "Kashmir".

The Government is opposed to any deletion, addition, etc. in the national anthem or its substitution by another composition and is, therefore, contesting the Writ petition.